Singer Souvenir of Yosemite Valley

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YOSEMITE VALLEY: VERNAL FALLS

VERNAL FALLS

VERNAL FALLS, lying below Nevada, and yet still under the overhanging grandeur of Liberty Cap, is about 400 feet high.

The Indian name is "Pi-wy-ack," which, could it be literally interpreted, means "a constant shower of scintillating crystals." Seen from below, it is an apparently vertical sheet of water of sparkling brightness and of almost snowy whiteness, leaping into a rock-strewn basin at its foot whence vast billows of finely powdered spray roll forth in surging waves, and out of which the most beautiful rainbows are built to span the angry chasm with a halo of softening glory.

The rock behind the Fall is a perfectly square-cut mass of granite extending across the Canyon and at low water it is wonderful to notice how little, if any, effect upon it the immense force of this outpour of water has had.

A remarkable, natural parapet of granite runs along the edge of the Falls for some distance, just breast-high, and looking as if made by man purposely to afford the visitor a secure position from which to enjoy the picture. At the summit of the Falls, the view down the Canyon is exceedingly fine. The dancing, gurgling Merced, as it rushes away after its daring plunge, gives grace to the otherwise stern sublimity of the scene.

For the Convenience of all Sewing-Machine users, there are Singer Stores in every city.

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Needles for all makes of Sewing-Machines.

YOSEMITE VALLEY: BRIDAL VEIL FALLS

BRIDAL VEIL FALLS

POHONA, or Bridal Veil Falls, 900 feet high and about 40 feet wide, resembles an avalanche of watery rockets shooting out over the precipice above and leaping down in an unbroken chain to the immense bolder-formed cauldron beneath. Here it surges and boils in its angry fury, throwing up volumes of spray over which the sun builds two or more magnificent rainbows with which to arch the abyss.

The undulating sheets of spray fall in gauzelike and ethereal folds, ever changing, increasing or diminishing, now glittering in the light like a vast fairy net of diamonds, then becoming a multicolored cloud, throwing always their transparent drapery over the turbulent cascade as if to hide its impetuous beauty from an admiring gaze.

At all times Pohona is an enchantingly graceful waterfall, but between 4 and 5.30 p. m. it is lighted by brilliant rainbows and the halo of glory which enshrines it makes it a delightful memory forever.

In winter, the icicles which form at both sides of the fall are very attractive and the masses of ice with their grotto-like caves roofed with icicles are resplendently dazzling.

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YOSEMITE VALLEY, FROM INSPIRATION POINT

YOSEMITE VALLEY FROM INSPIRATION POINT

AT INSPIRATION POINT the Yosemite Valley stretches before the beholder as a stupendous awe-inspiring panorama.

Deep down in the mountain-walled gorge, sleeps the great Valley. Its meadow slopes, its shining peaceful river, its gaunt, green pines, its heavily-timbered slopes, are all encompassed by forbidding mountains of rocks, whose cliffs, domes and spires rear their stern crags from 3000 to 5000 feet towards Heaven seeming to guard from worldly contamination this fairy-land of Nature.

Gazing upon them, Longfellow's beautiful thought has new meaning. "Earth has built the great watch-towers of the mountains, and they lift their heads far into the sky and gaze ever upward and around to see if the Judge of the World comes not."

From out these imposing cliffs, in airy contrast, there gracefully leap many charming waterwalls, hanging their glistening threads from 900 to 3000 feet adown the gaunt, granite giants; while over all in the sunshine, an atmospheric veil of ethereal purple haze appears to heighten the general loveliness of the scene. No change of time can ever efface this wonderful first glimpse of Yosemite.

Wheeler & Wilson Sewing-Machines

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They are and for more than fifty years have been the standard type of rotary-shuttle movement for making the lock-stitch

These machines will continue to be made at the Wheeler & Wilson factories, at Bridgeport, Ct., as heretofore. The change simply means that you will always be able to get these well known machines at Singer Stores; also Wheeler & Wilson needles and parts.

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YOSEMITE VALLEY: CATHEDRAL SPIRES

CATHEDRAL SPIRES

JUST beyond Cathedral Rock, on the same side of the Valley, are two very noticeable and remarkable formations, called The Spires. These graceful pinnacles of rock, towering as they do, unsupported by any contiguous mountain for over 700 feet above their base, are like two immense Cathedral Spires, which suggested their appropriate name. The most southerly one is 2678 feet above the road, and that to the north 2579 feet. They are kept in obscurity, or brought out in wonderful relief, according to the way in which the light or shadow falls on them. This side of the valley is fantastically but exquisitely carved into forms of gigantic proportions and of the greatest interest. From the point of view shown, these spires appear symmetrical, of equal height and rising above the cliff behind, exactly like two towers of a Gothic church. At a closer view, not only do their rocky needles stand boldly out from and above the mountains of which they form a part, but their entire masonry is visible from apex to base, and the true angle of 85° to which they are adjusted throughout, as though built by a plummet board, is strikingly noticeable.

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YOSEMITE VALLEY: NEVADA FALLS AND LIBERTY CAP, FROM TRAIL

NEVADA FALLS AND CAP OF LIBERTY

THE first view of the Cap of Liberty and Nevada Falls is a sight never to be forgotten. Their scenic combination is marvelously imposing.

Liberty Cap is only 1800 feet high, but its singular form and majestic presence impresses all beholders. For many years it was pronounced inaccessible, but a few bold explorers have reached its summit. Along its granite sides two or three stray bushes eke out a struggling existence, but strange to say on its crest a number of trees are found of which two are over ten feet in diameter and apparently about 1500 years old. These are profusely adorned with a moss of a most beautiful blossoming variety. A walk to the edge of the Cap requires courage, but a glacier-like boulder at the southeastern corner offers a clinging support for the fingers, and looking down into the abyss Nevada Falls may be seen.

The form and graceful sweep of its waters—the dazzling whiteness of its sheeny foam, make this leap of the whole Merced River for over 600 feet to the rocks below, a wondrously beautiful sight. When in front of it and looking upward it is readily seen that in form this is very different from the other falls of the Valley. Although its waters shoot over the precipice in a curve, it soon strikes the smooth surface of the mountain and spreads out into a sheet of marvelously snowy whiteness and of burnished brightness, widening as it descends until it sometimes exceeds 100 feet in breadth at the pool into which it is leaping. The best view of this sublime spectacle is from the footbridge below, over the hurrying and wave-surging river.

Time Tells the Story

There is a big difference between the cost of making a first-class Sewing-Machine, embodying the best of materials and workmanship, and one which is made in the cheapest manner. The buyer of a cheap machine soon pays the difference of price in the constant cost of repairs, to say nothing of its annoying inefficiency.

SINGER SEWING MACHINES DO GOOD WORK DURING A LIFETIME

EL CAPITAN, CATHEDRAL ROCK, AND BRIDAL VEIL FALLS; MERCED RIVER IN FOREGROUND

EL CAPITAN, CATHEDRAL ROCK AND BRIDAL VEIL FALLS. MERCED RIVER IN FORE-GROUND

EL CAPITAN, "the laurel-crowned King of the Vale" is the monarch of the world of rocks. It is a solid mass of granite towering skyward three-fifths of a mile, barren except for one tree, an alligator pine, which grows 127 feet high on a narrow ledge, a thousand feet above the rock's base. Two of its sides, each exceeding one-half mile in breadth, meet to form an abutting angle of 45 degrees. On one the supposed face of Tu-tock-ah-no-lah, a semi-god of the Indians, is depicted, and over both are manifold pearly lights and mystic shadings that soften the harshness of its outline and the crushing grandeur of its size. For it is almost impossible to comprehend the marvelous might of 3300 feet of rugged rock, towering towards the zenith. A descriptive writer has said of its height, "The statue on the dome of the Capitol at Washington, D. C., being 307 feet above the base of that structure, would take ten and three-quarters of that imposing building to enable the lips of the Goddess of Liberty on the top of it to kiss the brow of Tu-tock-ah-no-lah."

Cathedral Rock is one of two spires that tower unsupported by any contiguous mountain for over 700 feet.

Bridal Veil Falls lends glistening grace as it leaps airily forth from its rugged home, to form, 900 feet below, a frolicsome, dancing stream, which, with no backward glance at its veiled rainbow-hued beauty, rushes onward to tne quiet Merced River.

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Cheaply made imitations of obsolete forms of Singer Sewing-Machines are offered by merchandise dealers to deceive an unwary public

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YOSEMITE VALLEY: YOSEMITE FALLS ETC., FROM SENTINEL HOTEL

YOSEMITE FALLS FROM SENTINEL HOTEL

YOSEMITE FALLS leaps its height of 2500 feet in three bounds, the highest or Upper Falls being 1500 feet or nearly three-quarters of the whole. From this view, taken across the valley from Sentinel Hotel, it is seen to be among the most attractive sights of the Yosemite.

On a closer inspection we find its most striking feature is a vibration under the force of the wind which at intervals lifts it aside like a curtain, disclosing the entrance to a cave some 40 feet deep.

On the approach to the Lower Falls the various parts seem to be blended in one whole of transcendental loveliness, and the vaulting masses of its waters, whose eddying mists are fringed by the sun with irridescent colors, become most impressive. The force of the Fall displaces the air with so great rapidity that a strong wind is noticeable when near the cataract and a very decided drop of temperature. In early days, when conveniences were few, this cold draught of air was pressed into service as a meat-safe and is said to have answered very well. The trees near-by bear no branches on the windward side, although dwarf ferns, weeds, grasses and flowers grow among the large masses of sharp, angular rocks that form the uneven sides of an immense, ever-boiling cauldron at the base of the Falls.

Unlike the Vernal and Nevada Falls of the Merced River, the Yosemite varies greatly in the amount of water passing over it as it is formed by a creek of the same name composed exclusively of melting snow. The Falls, therefore, decrease noticeably in volume after July, though they still produce a very fine effect, both because of their unusual and wonderful height and a setting of wild and majestic beauty. It is beyond the power of language to describe the awe-inspiring majesty of the darkly-frowning and over-hanging mountain walls of solid granite that surround this spot, seeming as though they might threaten with instantaneous annihilation any one who denied their power.

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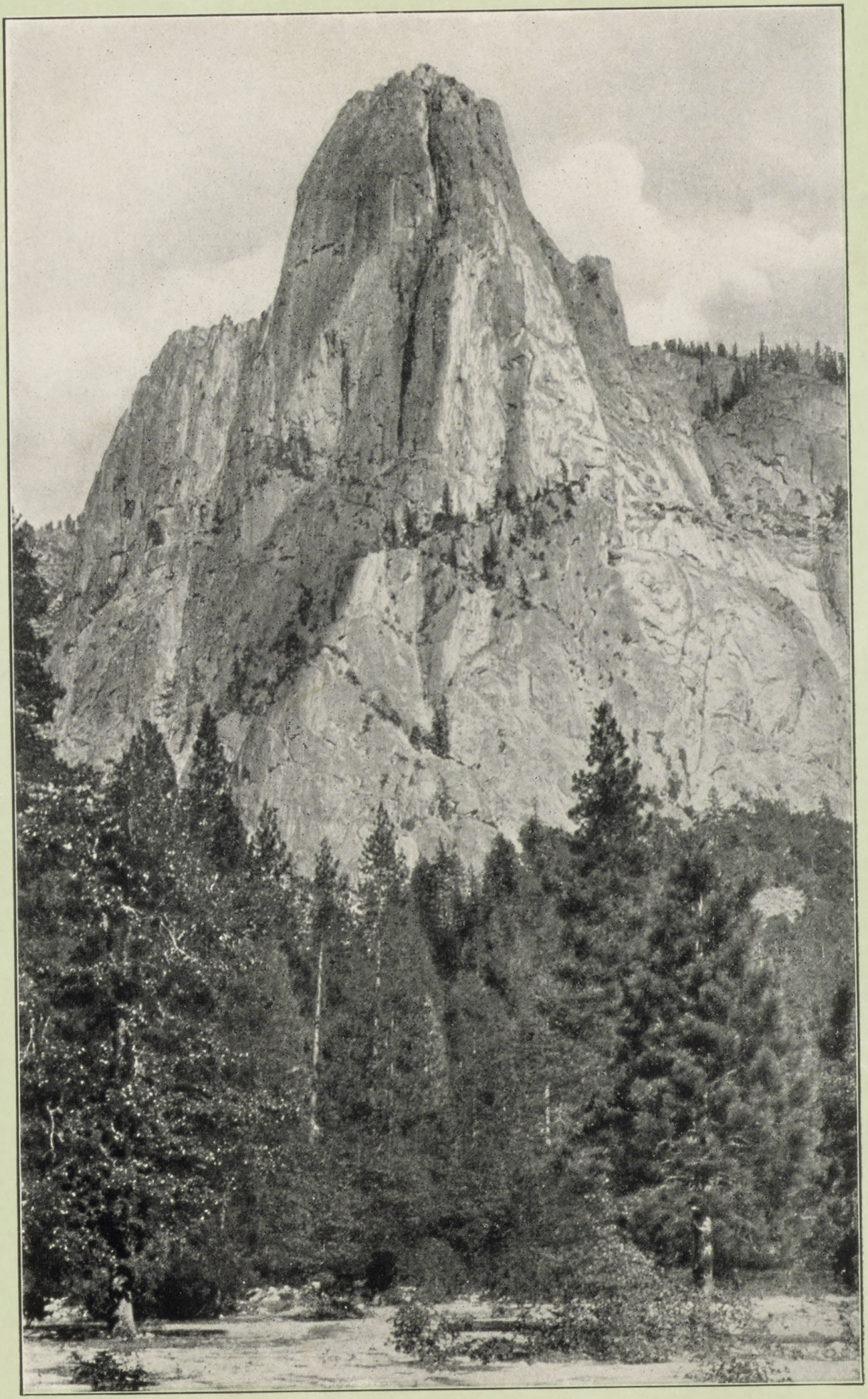

YOSEMITE VALLEY: SENTINEL ROCK, 3,100 FEET HIGH

SENTINEL ROCK

3100 FEET HIGH

THE SENTINEL is the great central landmark of the Valley and whether draped in belts of cloud or gilded by the setting sun, its isolated prominence is ever imposingly magnificent.

Its front resembles an obelisk or the tower of some vast cathedral at the apex, but for nearly two-thirds of its 3100 feet, the face is almost vertical and composed of closely segmented strata of rock, carrying so smooth a surface as to present a shining wall of masonry to the invader who would scale its heights at this point.

For this reason the Indians used it not only as a watch tower, but as a signal station, on all important occasions.

It is one of the greatest masses of rock in the Yosemite and as El Capitan seems, in its magnitude and impressive shape, to be the dignified commander of the Valley forces, so Sentinel Rock, holding a commanding position at a turn of the Valley, its rocky, pointed summit catching and reflecting each color change of nature's forces, may be likened to the lesser officer, who, raising his head boldly, seems alert for the honor of the Valley.

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YOSEMITE VALLEY, FROM ARTISTS POINT

YOSEMITE VALLEY FROM ARTIST'S POINT

THE YOSEMITE VALLEY is a deep, almost vertically-walled chasm in the very heart of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, 150 miles due east of San Francisco. The Valley proper is about seven miles in length by from three-quarters to one and a half in width, and differs from all other known formations of this character in the multitude and magnitude of its wonders.

The towering, almost perpendicular sides are of a beautiful pearl-gray granite, transmuted into many shades and colors and shaped in an infinite variety of forms. Its beauty and fertility are enriched by the Merced River, so named by the Spanish Fathers, meaning River of Mercy. It is a beautiful stream, rich in trout, its banks ornamented with azaleas and syringas, and overarched with balm of Gilead, alders, black oaks, pines, cedars and silver firs.

Entering by way of the Mariposa trail, the view of the Valley from Artist's Point, is a notable one. El Capitan, grandly majestic, on the left; Cathedral Rocks on the right, with Bridal Veil Falls shimmering in their midst, compose a magnificent and enchanting picture, which affords but a foretaste of the beauties of the entire Valley to be presented to the traveler as he passes into its depths and heights

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YOSEMITE VALLEY: MIRROR LAKE, MOUNT WATKINS IN REFLECTION

MIRROR LAKE

BEAUTIFUL MIRROR LAKE, holding the images of Mount Watkins, Cloud Rest and Half Dome, and reflecting the chameleon-like glories of the surrounding foliage and the ever-changing skies, is one of the most lovely spots on earth.

The Indian name of "Ke-ko-to-too-yan" (or Sleeping Water) seems most appropriate, for when the placid beauty of this little body of water is contrasted with the surrounding grandeur and ruggedness, its tranquility is enhanced till it seems indeed asleep.

Here the sun may be seen to rise many times during a single morning, but to lose no part of its charm the lake should be visited before 7 a.m. Then the reflected shadows are strongest, and the beautiful mirror on its glassy bosom in the greatest perfection. After 10 a.m. the sea breezes cause a distortion of its surface by myriad ripples.

In full front, bearing a little to the left, is Mt. Watkins, a second El Capitan, but loftier. It is 4000 feet in height above the bosom of the lake. Then comes the deep gorge through which lap the waters of Lake Tenieya, 12 miles away. To the right, Cloud Rest, on whose crown a lingering cloud may be found even when the sky is otherwise clear and which becomes a point of terrible interest when wreathed in storm. Half Dome occupies a commanding position at the head of the Valley, rising to a height above it of 5000 feet and the view from its broad crest is inexpressibly sublime. The skilled climber obtains there a comprehensive panorama of scenic grandeur that is without a rival on earth.

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